

Group V: Claims 9-15, drawn to a method of making a composition, classified in class 424, subclass 773, for example.

Thus, the 20 claims pending in this application have been separated into five separate groups. Applicants elect with traverse Group I, Claims 1-3 and 16-19, for examination purposes only.

Applicants respectfully traverse on the grounds that the claims are to a certain extent coextensive, and if not coextensive, interrelated so as to require examination in a single application. In particular, Groups I and V should be examined together because Group I relies at least in part, on the subject matter of Group V for patentability. The claims of Group I, drawn to a burnet extract composition are necessarily interrelated to the art of preparing that same composition and would, as indicated, be found in the same classification. Thus, had Applicants elected the claims of Group V, the Examiner would have necessarily included examination of the art pertaining to the claims of Group I. Similarly, the claims of Group II, drawn to a method of inhibiting hair growth and the claim of group III, a method of preventing folliculitis are interrelated in that the claims of Groups II and III are directed to methods which include causing a physiological effect on the hair and hair follicle of the subject. These closely related methods are classified in the same class and could be easily examined in the same application.

Moreover, Applicants submit that examination of all of the claims would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of The Manual of Patenting Examining Procedure states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." All five groups (Group I-V) are classified in the same class. In addition, as stated above, the claims of Group I should be examined with the claims of Group

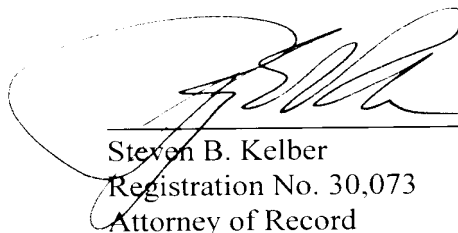
V. Therefore, the Applicants submit that it would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner to examine the claims of Groups I, II, III, IV, and V together in this application. In particular, the Applicants assert that the examination of the claims of Group I and V would not pose an undue burden for the Examiner.

In view of the above, the restriction is believed to be improper and Applicants respectfully requests that the restriction be reconsidered and withdrawn such that at least the claims of Groups I and V (Claims 1-3, 9-15, and 16-19) are examined in one application.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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